

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Wyoming High Plains District 2987 Prospector Drive Casper, Wyoming 82604-2968



In Reply Refer To: 8100 WYP000 ROW (WYW 139883)

JUL 0 1 2010

CERTIFIED - RETURN RECIEPT REQUESTED

Catherine Glidden Section of Environmental Analysis Surface Transportation Board 395 E. Street, SW Washington, DC 20423

Dear Ms. Glidden:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Newcastle Field Office (NFO) has received the *Proposal for the Identification and Evaluation of Deeply Buried Archaeological Sites Along the DM&E Powder River Basin Expansion Project New Build Segment in Wyoming and South Dakota.* BLM Wyoming High Plains District Office (HPDO) has questions regarding this proposal and would like further discussion since this proposal affects all three field offices (Newcastle, Buffalo and Casper) within the HPDO. The BLM expected that the proposal would incorporate and use the investigation of the geomorphologic potential for buried sites. We understand that the proposal is being revised to incorporate this information and that a teleconference may be scheduled after the revision is provided to parties to this undertaking. Please confirm that our understanding is correct and that we will be provided with any new documentation for our review and will be included in any future discussion.

We also understand that a meeting to discuss the proposal was held in Rapid City, South Dakota on April 21, 2010. This proposal was received only in the NFO. The other two BLM Field Offices affected received no advance notice of the meeting and would like to be notified of all meetings, conference calls, and other discussion regarding cultural resources in Wyoming and management of cultural resources for this undertaking in general. To that end, the following BLM field managers and cultural resource specialists should receive all documents relating to cultural resource management for this undertaking and notification of all meetings, conference calls, and other discussions between parties to the undertaking that relate to the Wyoming portion of the undertaking or management of cultural resources for the undertaking as a whole:

BLM Office	Field Office Manager	Archaeologist
Newcastle Field Office	Rick Miller	Alice Tratebas
1101 Washington Blvd.	307-746-6602	307-746-6621
Newcastle, Wyoming 82701		
Buffalo Field Office	Duane Spencer	Buck Damone
1425 Fort Street	307-684-1141	307-684-1042
Buffalo, Wyoming 82834		
Casper Field Office	Joe Meyer	Chris Arthur
2987 Prospector Drive	307-261-7776	307-261-7501
Casper, Wyoming 82604		·
Wyoming State Office P.O. Box 1828	Bill Hill (Deputy State	Judyth Reed
5353 Yellowstone Road	Director, Resource Policy and Management)	307-775-6017
Cheyenne, Wyoming 82003	307-775-6113	

The Buffalo and Casper Field Offices have not received consultation letters and cultural resource reports and documents pertinent to their field offices. Consequently, the requirement to consult with BLM has not been completed.

Adequate advance notification of planned meetings/discussions should be provided so that BLM cultural resource staff from Wyoming may make themselves available and make appropriate travel arrangements. Should it not be possible for Wyoming BLM cultural resource staff to attend in person, attendance by conference telephone would be acceptable.

The NFO is the lead BLM office for this undertaking and please contact William Carson, Newcastle Field Office Realty Specialist at 307-746-6607, if you need further information or wish to discuss this. Your assistance is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Connolly

Stephanie Connolly, High Plains District Manager